



STEPHANIE LEE—THE TECH

Students and other demonstrators marched along Massachusetts Avenue on Monday, May 1 in support of illegal immigrant rights. This group joined a larger demonstration in the Boston Commons that was part of the nationwide “Day Without Immigrants” rallies. See photo spread on pages 8 and 9.

Forum Tomorrow to Provide First Glimpse Into MIT Energy Initiative

By Angeline Wang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

After eight months of information-gathering and study, the Energy Research Council will release its report tomorrow on how the Institute can address global energy challenges. The report marks the culmination of the first phase of President Susan Hockfield’s first major initiative as MIT president.

As part of the day-long MIT Energy Forum, the report is scheduled to be presented in Kresge Auditorium at 9:20 a.m. following opening remarks by Hockfield. The Forum, entitled “Taking on the Challenge,” will include three sessions about energy re-

search, as well as a poster presentation sponsored by the MIT Energy Club.

The focus of the day is the report itself, which makes recommendations primarily on energy research and education, according to Council Co-chair Ernest J. Moniz.

“I hope the Forum will engage the MIT community in this critical issue,” Hockfield said in an e-mail. “Then we can collectively think through the many ways that MIT can step up to the plate for the benefit of all.”

Moniz said that he sees the Forum as the true “beginning of the [Energy] Initiative.”

“We cast a fairly wide net [to

attract] greater Boston community interest,” said Patti Richards, senior communications officer in the News Office, which also took a part in planning the event. “We hope there will be a good turnout.”

The three panel sessions with MIT professors will follow closely with the main research recommendations made in the report, Moniz said. The panels — Science and Technology for a Clean Energy Future, Improving Today’s Energy Systems, and Energy for a Rapidly Evolving World — will discuss emerging ar-

Energy, Page 12

Some Undergrad Degrees Dependent on Swim Test

by Yinuo Qian

With commencement only 38 days away, there are still around 30 seniors who have not yet met the MIT swimming requirement, according to Carrie Moore, Director of Physical Education.

If this number does not decline by June, failing to meet the swim requirement will once again be among the many reasons seniors are forced to postpone their graduation. The Registrar’s Office was not able to provide the number of seniors who did not pass the swim test in previous years.

The swim test was implemented in the late 1940s after World War II and is currently one of the General Institute Requirements. According to Cynthia Stanton of the Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation (DAPER), the swim requirement is one way to reflect the equity emphasized by MIT. “It is how you earn being an MIT student,” she said.

There are two ways for MIT students to meet the swim requirement — students may choose to either pass a 100-yard swim test without a time limit or attend a swim class for beginners (the fee is covered by the Institute).

The Orientation swim test “is a fun time for froshes to kick off and challenge themselves,” Moore said.

During Orientation, usually on the Tuesday after Labor Day, DAPER prepares for about 900 students to take the test, with 700 showing up on average in years past. Following Orientation, the rest of the student body can register for a swim class as one of their PE choices or attend swim tests held twice daily, four days a week in the Zesiger Center.

“MIT always tries to lower pressure on students for them to meet the requirement,” Moore explained. “[We] take the time to make it easy

Swim Test, Page 14

Agreement Reached On Pulled OCW Site

Course Site to Return With Added Context

By Yinuo Qian
and Angeline Wang

The professors of the Visualizing Cultures course are planning to republish their OpenCourseWare site on Friday with additional context to amend a previously controversial section. The Web site was taken down last week after it generated much debate surrounding the section, titled “Throwing Off Asia,” which includes historical images depicting the execution of Chinese prisoners by Japanese soldiers.

The additional context would be presented in very clear disclaimers located on or near the images. Also in the works is a location on the Web site promoting public dialogue and discussion of the images, MIT home page coordinator Suzana Lisanti said.

Professors Shigeru Miyagawa and John W. Dower, co-creators of the course (21F.027J), made these decisions after a week of discussion with members of the MIT Chinese community, most notably during a well-attended public forum held last Wednesday night and a meeting with officers of the MIT Chinese Student and Scholar Association Thursday morning. Representatives from the president’s office and the MIT News Office also attended the Thursday meeting.

The CSSA’s main concern, as listed in a statement issued early last week, is that “the proper historical context for the prints” be included and that the text addresses “the racist sentiment and provide the historical perspective” of the woodprints, which are propagandistic in nature.

According to Miyagawa, one of the main issues discussed on Thursday was what changes to make to the Web site to prevent similar misun-

derstandings in the future.

The discussion resulted in a constructive agreement, said CSSA President Huan Zhang G.

The faculty “recognized the need to contextualize these sensitive materials and pledged to continue a dialogue with CSSA and other groups to address this issue,” Zhang and CSSA Vice President Lin Han G wrote in their statement last Thursday.

The professors and the course’s webmasters plan to meet again later this week with the CSSA officers to have them review the amended material before it goes back online.

“I’m glad so many groups are working together to make [the situation] right for the healing process to continue,” Miyagawa said.

The controversy began when the OCW site was spotlighted on <http://web.mit.edu/> on April 23. Miyagawa, Dower, and the webmasters for the site began receiving complaints and concerned e-mails almost immediately thereafter. While some of the e-mails were constructive, others were racist and violent, and it quickly became clear that the images in question had been spread around the Internet out of context. Zhang emphasized that the CSSA is opposed to personal attacks and threats.

“My own view of this is that it began as a simple and honest misunderstanding of our intent,” Miyagawa said. “The technology made it easy to make this misunderstanding by allowing the image to be linked to in isolation without the textual context. This then exploded out of proportion and out of control on the Internet.”

According to Scott Shunk, the project director for Visualizing Cultures, the violent e-mails subsided

OCW Web Site, Page 10



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

MIT Lion Dance troupe dancers Christine Fanchiang '07, Andrew W. Lee '07 (White Lion) and Vivian Tang '09, Elizabeth H. Au '07 (Red Lion) performed a routine for International Fair this past Friday April 28.



Comics

Page 6

NEWS

Pfizer compensation for executives comes under fire, many shareholders withhold support of MIT Corporation chair.

Page 10

OPINION

Reactions to the “Visualizing Cultures” OpenCourseWare Web site

Page 4

World & Nation 2
Opinion 4
Photo Essay 8
Sports 15

WORLD & NATION

States to File Lawsuit Over Gas Mileage Regulations

By Danny Hakim

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALBANY, N.Y.

Ten states, including California and New York, plan to file suit this week to force the Bush administration to toughen mileage regulations for sport utility vehicles and other trucks.

The suit, which the states will announce on Tuesday, contends that the administration did not do a rigorous enough analysis of the environmental benefits of fuel economy regulations, as required by law, before issuing new rules for SUVs, pickup trucks and minivans last month. The suit will also claim that the government did not consider the impact of gasoline consumption on climate change when devising the new rules.

While the states have initiated a number of suits over Washington's environmental policies, the new suit is the first to take aim at federal fuel economy regulations. With gasoline returning to \$3 a gallon in many parts of the country, there has been a broad outcry for action but little consensus on what to do.

Senate Republicans have proposed a \$100 rebate to help taxpayers pay gas bills — the proposal has been met with criticism even from the right — while President Bush has asked for congressional authority to revise mileage regulations for passenger cars. He already has the authority to do so for SUVs and other trucks.

For Science's Gatekeepers, A Credibility Gap

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Recent disclosures of fraudulent or flawed studies in medical and scientific journals have called into question as never before the merits of their peer-review system.

The system is based on journals inviting independent experts to critique submitted manuscripts. The stated aim is to weed out sloppy and bad research, ensuring the integrity of what it has published.

Because findings published in peer-reviewed journals affect patient care, public policy and the authors' academic promotions, journal editors contend that new scientific information should be published in a peer-reviewed journal before it is presented to doctors and the public.

That message, however, has created a widespread misimpression that passing peer review is the scientific equivalent of the Good Housekeeping seal of approval.

Virtually every major scientific and medical journal has been humbled recently by publishing findings that are later discredited. The flurry of episodes has led many people to ask why authors, editors and independent expert reviewers all failed to detect the problems before publication.

Patent Lawsuit Seeks Shutdown Of Blackberry

By Ian Austen

THE NEW YORK TIMES

OTTAWA

A wireless e-mail software company partly owned by NTP has filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Research In Motion seeking a shutdown of its popular BlackBerry service.

The move by the software company, Visto, of Redwood Shores, Calif., came almost two months after RIM paid NTP, a patent holding company, \$612.5 million to settle a similar case.

Visto's chief executive and chairman, Brian A. Bogosian, said his company decided to sue RIM after a Texas jury ruled in its favor last Friday in a lawsuit against Seven Networks, another wireless e-mail software maker.

Bogosian said that NTP, which acquired an undisclosed stake in Visto late last year in a deal that gave Visto the license to NTP patents, had played no role in the latest legal move.

Immigrants Take to Streets In Rallies Across the Nation

By Randal C. Archibold

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Hundreds of thousands of immigrants and their supporters on Monday skipped work, school and shopping and marched on dozens of cities from coast to coast. The demonstrations did not bring the nation to a halt as planned by some organizers, but they signaled the continuing resolve of those who favor loosening the country's laws on illegal immigration.

Originally billed as a nationwide economic boycott under the banner "Day Without an Immigrant," the day evolved into a sweeping round of protests intended to influence the debate in Congress over proposals that would grant legal status to all or most of the estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the country.

The protesters, a mix of illegal immigrants and legal residents and citizens, were mostly Latino, but in contrast to similar demonstrations in the past two months, large numbers of people of other ethnicities joined or endorsed many of the events. In some cases, the rallies took on a broader tone of social action, as gay rights advocates, opponents of the war in

Iraq and others without a direct stake in the immigration debate took to the streets.

"I think it's only fair that I speak up for those who can't speak for themselves," said Aimee Hernandez, 28, one of an estimated 400,000 who turned out in Chicago, among the largest demonstrations. "I think we're just too many that you can't just send them back. How are you going to ignore these people?"

But among those who favor stricter controls on illegal immigration, the protests hardly impressed.

"If anything it will free up traffic on the freeway and give kids a free day off of schools and others a free day off from work," Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the Minutemen, a volunteer group that patrols the U.S.-Mexico border, said in an interview.

"But when the rule of law is dictated by a mob of illegal aliens taking to the streets, especially under a foreign flag, then that means the nation is not governed by a rule of law. It is a mobocracy," Gilchrist said.

While the boycott, an idea born a couple of months ago among a small group of grass-roots immigration advocates here in Los Angeles, may not

have shut down the country, it was strongly felt in a variety of places, particularly those with large Latino populations.

Stores and restaurants in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York closed because workers did not show up or as a display of solidarity with demonstrators. School districts in several cities reported a decline in attendance — at Benito Juarez High School in Pilsen, a predominantly Latino community in Chicago, only 17 percent of the students showed up — even though administrators and some protest organizers urged students to stay in school.

Lettuce, tomatoes and grapes went unpicked in fields in California and Arizona, which contributes more than half of the nation's produce, as scores of growers let workers take the day off. Truckers that move 70 percent of the goods in ports in Los Angeles and Long Beach, the nation's busiest, did not work.

Meatpacking companies, including Tyson and Cargill, closed plants in the Midwest and West, employing more than 20,000 people, while the sprawling flower and produce markets in downtown Los Angeles stood largely and eerily empty.

Complaints From Oil Industry Lead GOP to Abandon Tax Plan

By Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Senate Republicans on Monday hurriedly abandoned a broad tax proposal opposed by the oil industry and business leaders, another sign of their struggle to come up with an acceptable political and legislative answer to high gasoline prices.

Sen. Bill Frist, the majority leader, said he had decided to jettison the provision, which would have generated billions of dollars by changing the way businesses treat inventories for tax purposes. Instead, he said the Senate Finance Committee would hold hearings on the plan "later this year, so the pluses and minuses of the provision can become well-known."

The retreat came after a torrent of objections from business leaders

and their advocates, who typically view Republicans in Congress as allies. They complained that they had been blindsided by the inclusion of the proposal as a central element of the Republican leadership's energy package late last week.

The centerpiece of the leadership proposal — a \$100 rebate check to compensate taxpayers for higher gasoline prices — continued to receive a rough reception as well. Members of the public have been telephoning and writing to ridicule the idea, and even Republican lawmakers are finding fault.

"Political anxiety in an election year is to blame for a lot of the bad bills Congress passes," said Rep. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., who on Monday called the rebate a "knee-jerk populist idea" that voters will see through.

Democrats are trying to rally vot-

ers against Republicans, pointing to the rising fuel costs as evidence of how consumers are hurt by the opposition's ties to the oil industry.

The Republican energy package was assembled quickly last week after lawmakers returned from a spring recess punctuated by public complaints about the rapidly rising cost of gas. Senate officials acknowledged privately that they were paying a price for rolling out the proposal before having time to fully vet it. Besides the tax provision and the rebate, the measure includes new price-gouging protections, incentives to expand domestic oil refinery capacity, support for new energy initiatives and tax incentives for buying hybrid vehicles.

Outside Congress, experts have said that the government has few realistic options that would quickly reduce gas prices.

WEATHER

Cloudy Weather Ahead

By Roberto Rondanelli

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The relatively weak large-scale forcing (that is, absence of cyclones or other strong pressure gradients) over our region over the last few days allowed us to observe local circulations in action without much disruption. The persistent sea breeze during the weekend is a good example. With sea surface temperatures like the current 46°F (8°C) in the Boston Bay, the sunlight on a clear spring day can quickly heat up the air above the land to temperatures higher than those over the sea. A pressure gradient across the coast develops, causing wind to blow inland during the day. At night the reverse occurs; the land cools more efficiently than the ocean, and the wind blows out from the land to the sea. You can imagine that sea breezes are common and strong in the spring, when solar radiation is strong while the sea surface temperatures are still a bit cold from winter.

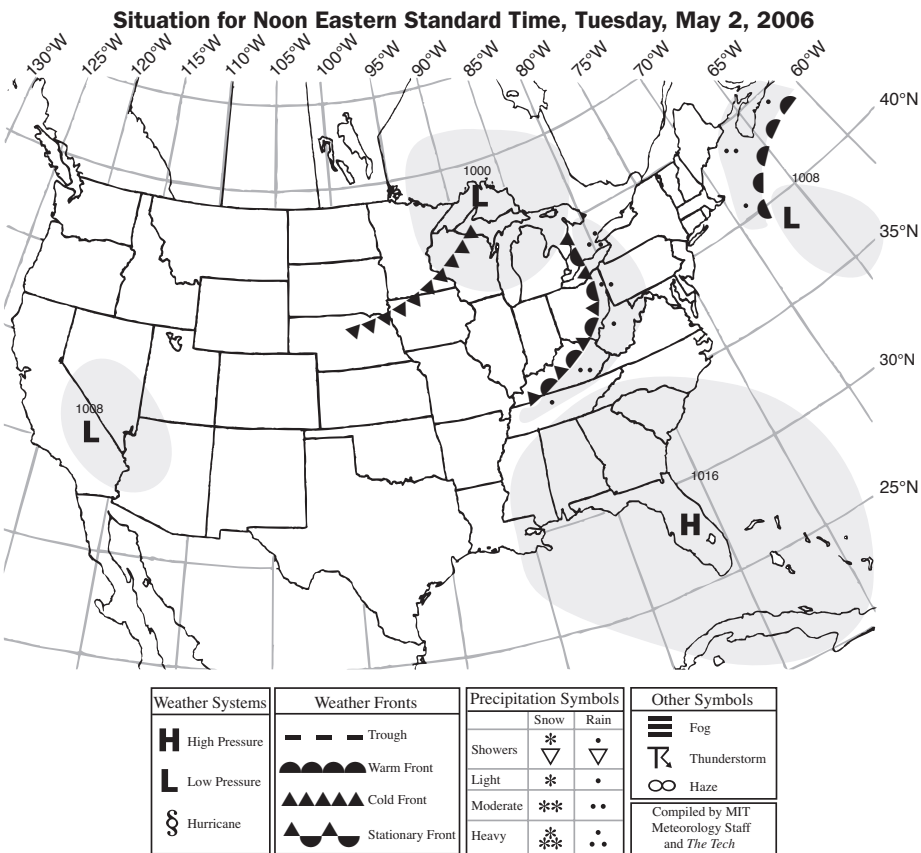
As for the weather during the rest of the week, a warm front associated with a low pressure off the Eastern coast of the U.S. and Canada might affect our area with precipitation and moist air advection today and tomorrow. As this pattern moves westward, another front might influence the area with possible thunderstorms on Thursday afternoon. Thursday and Friday will be much warmer with highs near 70.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. Chance of drizzle and rain. High 49°F (9°C).

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. Chance of drizzle and rain, especially in the morning. Low 44°F (7°C). High 53°F (12°C)

Thursday: Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain and thunderstorms. Low 44°F (7°C). High 65°F (18°C).



AIDS Issue Pushes the Vatican To Reevaluate Ban on Condoms

By Ian Fisher
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROME

Even at the Vatican, not all sacred beliefs are absolute: Thou shalt not kill, but war can be just. Now, behind the quiet walls, a clash is shaping up involving two poles of near certainty: the church’s long-held ban on condoms and its advocacy of human life.

The issue is AIDS. Church officials recently confirmed that Pope Benedict XVI had requested a report on whether it might be acceptable for Catholics to use condoms in one narrow circumstance: to protect life inside a marriage when one partner is infected with HIV or is sick with AIDS.

Whatever the pope ultimately decides, church officials and other experts broadly agree that it is remarkable that so delicate an issue is being taken up. But they also agree that such an inquiry is logical, and particularly significant from this pope, who was Pope John Paul II’s strict enforcer of church doctrine.

“In some ways, maybe he has got the greatest capacity to do it

because there is no doubt about his orthodoxy,” said the Rev. Jon Fuller, a Jesuit physician who runs an AIDS clinic at the Boston Medical Center.

The issue has surfaced repeatedly as one of the most complicated and delicate facing the church. For years, some influential cardinals and theologians have argued for a change for couples affected by AIDS in the name of protecting life, while others have fiercely attacked the possibility as demoting the church’s long advocacy of abstinence and marital fidelity to fight the disease.

The news broke just after Benedict celebrated his first anniversary as pope, a relatively quiet year with few concrete papal acts. But he devoted his first encyclical to love, specifically between a man and a woman inside of marriage.

Indeed, with regard to condoms, the only change apparently being considered is in the specific case of married couples. But any change, however narrow, would be unpopular with conservative Catholics, some of whom have already ex-

pressed disappointment that Benedict has displayed a softer face now as defender of the faith than he did when he was still Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the papal adviser.

“It’s just hard to imagine that any pope — and this pope — would change the teaching,” said Austin Ruse, president of the Culture of Life Foundation, a Catholic-oriented advocacy group based in Washington that opposes abortion and contraception.

It is too soon to know where the pope is heading. Far less contentious issues can take years to inch through the Vatican’s nexus of belief and bureaucracy, prayer and politics.

Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan, the pope’s top aide on health care issues, and other Vatican officials declined requests last week for interviews about the subject, and the news reports have been contradictory, except to confirm that the pope has asked for such a review.

Lozano Barragan was quoted in a daily newspaper, La Repubblica, as saying Benedict made the request two months ago, as part of a broader examination of bioethical issues.

President of Bolivia Nationalizes Country’s Oil, Natural Gas Sector

By Paulo Prada
THE NEW YORK TIMES

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

President Evo Morales of Bolivia ordered the military to occupy energy fields around the country on Monday as he placed Bolivia’s oil and gas reserves under state control.

Surrounded by soldiers at an oil field operated by the Brazilian energy giant Petroleo Brasileiro, or Petrobras, Morales ordered foreign producers to relinquish control of all fields and channel future sales of hydrocarbons through the state-owned energy company.

He gave foreign companies 180 days to renegotiate existing contracts with the government, or leave the country.

“The time has come, the awaited day, a historic day in which Bolivia retakes absolute control of our natural resources,” Morales declared, according to The Associated Press. “The looting by the foreign companies has ended.”

The decree is the latest step by Latin America governments from Venezuela to Ecuador to assert

greater control over the energy sector, moves that have sent shivers through foreign producers.

Motivated by nationalist politics and soaring oil and gas prices, governments have seized an opportunity to gain higher revenues while parlaying their control over future energy supplies into greater political leverage, both at home and abroad.

“Governments in the region see energy as a commodity they can use to push populist agendas,” said Adriano Pires, director of the Brazilian Center for Infrastructure Studies, an energy consultancy in Rio de Janeiro.

“From a political point of view, it’s a powerful issue to manipulate, but from an industrial point of view, it can do real harm.”

Morales’ decree, in effect to nationalize Bolivia’s energy industry, which includes the second-biggest gas reserves in Latin America after Venezuela, quickly added to the nervousness of foreign producers.

They said they would proceed with caution until the government clarified under what conditions it plans to renegotiate contracts.

“We’re worried,” said Begona Elices, director of external relations in Madrid at Repsol YPF S.A., the Spanish oil company, the second biggest investor in Bolivia’s gas sector. “There will be a lot of fine print to consider.”

Petrobras, the biggest investor, with over \$1 billion invested in Bolivia, criticized the government’s “unilateral attitude” and said it would take whatever steps necessary to “protect the rights of the company” and guarantee Brazil’s supply of gas, half of which comes from Bolivia.

The importance of Bolivian gas to Brazil — the largest market in the region — prompted concern even from President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, a leftist and former union leader who publicly hailed Morales’ rise to power.

Da Silva was to meet with Jose Gabrielli de Azevedo, chief executive at Petrobras, on Tuesday, along with senior officials from Brazil’s Ministry of Mines and Energy.

The Bolivian announcement fulfilled a campaign pledge that helped Morales rise to power last December.

Stakes Rising As Microsoft Faces Off Against Google in ‘Hypercompetition’

By Steve Lohr
and Saul Hansell
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft, described Google in an interview late last year as a worthy adversary, a company to test Microsoft’s mettle. “This is hypercompetition, make no mistake,” Gates observed.

The rivalry between the companies is growing more combative, and with good reason: The outcome is likely to shape the future of competition in computing and the way people use information technology.

A measure of how seriously Microsoft takes the challenge came last Thursday when it announced that its spending would rise sharply next year, about \$2 billion higher than previous estimates. Much of the extra money, analysts say, is going to meet the threat from companies offering advertising-supported Internet services and software, led by Google.

“Microsoft doesn’t have to kill Google, but it has to narrow the gap,” said Richard Sherlund, an ana-

lyst at Goldman Sachs & Co. “It has to be in the same ZIP code.”

To succeed, Microsoft has to make strong inroads into Internet services and software, where Google is a leader. “It’s clear that if we fail to do so, our business as we know it is at risk,” Ray Ozzie, a chief technical officer, warned in an e-mail memo to Microsoft employees last year.

Microsoft enters that battle from a stronghold: its lucrative, powerful business in personal computer software. Google has asserted that Microsoft’s next Web browser typically steers users to Microsoft’s search service, limiting consumer choice and potentially hurting Google, the leading Internet search engine.

Microsoft says Google’s objections are mistaken, and that its new browser, Internet Explorer 7, increases a user’s search options.

But Google has advantages of its own, and the Internet services business is very different from the desktop software industry.

The Internet model is one that offers search, e-mail, calendar, con-

tacts and even word processing as services accessible remotely with a PC or hand-held device with a Web browser. Typically, Google invents a new service or feature, makes it a free Web-based service, and only later figures out how to make money on it from advertising of some kind.

That ad-supported software, distributed as a Web service, is a threat to Microsoft’s model of selling licensed desktop software, at least in the consumer market. Corporations have so far shown less interest in ad-supported software as an Internet service.

To smaller software companies, Google’s strategy appears to have the same competitive impact as Microsoft’s tried-and-true practice of bundling more software programs and features into its Windows operating system.

Danny Sullivan, editor of Search Engine Watch, a Web newsletter, said that in some niches of the software business, Google is casting the same sort of shadow over Silicon Valley that Microsoft once did.

Brisk Spending in March Raises Interest Concerns

By Vikas Bajaj

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Robust spending on homes, cars and other consumer goods kept the economy moving at a brisk pace and sent a critical measure of inflation higher in March, the Commerce Department reported Monday, renewing concerns that the Federal Reserve will have to raise interest rates further.

Prices paid for consumer items excluding food and energy — a gauge closely watched by policy makers — rose at an annual pace of 2 percent in March, up from 1.8 percent in February, as personal spending, income and home construction all increased. Economists had expected prices to rise at a 1.9 percent pace. Including food and energy, prices rose 2.9 percent, the same pace as February.

Analysts and investors are carefully monitoring the latest economic data in an effort to divine whether the Fed will raise rates once, twice, or even three more times before stopping.

The latest increase in prices, though modest, will concern policy makers because it could set the stage for higher inflation later, said Nigel Gault, an economist at Global Insight, a research firm. If gasoline and oil prices stay at current levels or move higher, businesses may be forced to raise the prices of other goods and services. Inflation excluding food and energy may then surpass 2 percent, the top end of the range Fed officials consider ideal.

“There is a risk that we will push up above 2 percent, not necessarily over the next month, but sometime over the next few months,” Gault said. “That will be a concern to the Fed.”

Judge Sentences Palestinian To Additional 19 Months

By Jennifer Steinhauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TAMPA, FLA.

Although the U.S. government lost most of its case last year against Sami Al-Arian, the former computer science professor it once identified as the linchpin in a terrorist organization, a federal judge sentenced him on Monday to an additional 19 months in prison before he is deported.

The case against Al-Arian, a Palestinian born in Kuwait, stemmed from a decade-long investigation that resulted in a 2003 indictment, charging him with being the leader of a domestic cell of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, a group that claims responsibility for terrorist acts.

Al-Arian, who had been under surveillance by American intelligence officials since 1991, was accused of raising money for suicide bombings in and around Israel.

The six-month trial, a centerpiece of the Bush administration’s anti-terrorism efforts that attracted the intense interest of legal experts, ended in December when the anonymous jury acquitted Al-Arian of eight of the 17 federal charges against him, deadlocking on the rest.

Rather than face a retrial, the two sides agreed last month to a plea bargain in which Al-Arian pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of aiding members of the militant Palestinian group and agreed to be deported.

But any hope Al-Arian might have had of being deported quickly evaporated on Monday in the courtroom of Judge James S. Moody Jr. of U.S. District Court. In a surprise move, Moody sentenced Al-Arian to the maximum allowed under the sentencing guidelines, more than even the prosecution requested, and chided him for acts even the jury had rejected as Al-Arian’s. The government had asked for the low end of the guidelines.

Militants Kill 35 Hindus Ahead Of Talks on Kashmir

By Somini Sengupta

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI, INDIA

Thirty-five Hindus were killed in recent days in two separate incidents in the Indian-administered portion of the disputed Kashmir province, the police said. The killings were believed to be the handiwork of Islamist militants just days before a scheduled meeting between the Indian prime minister and Kashmiri separatists.

In one incident, gunmen stormed a village in a district called Doda, dragged Hindu villagers from their homes and shot 22 of them dead. In another, in neighboring Udhampur district, suspected militants kidnapped 13 villagers from a remote mountainous spot. Four of their bodies were found lying in the woods late Sunday, and the rest were discovered Monday, the police said.

Even by the standards of blood-soaked Kashmir, it was a particularly grisly pair of incidents — and the deadliest violence since peace talks began more than two years ago between India and Pakistan, neighbors and rivals on the question of Kashmir. The attacks are worrisome because they appear designed to fuel Hindu-Muslim tensions.

Their impact is likely to be felt during the talks about Kashmir’s future, slated to begin Wednesday between the Indian prime minister, Manmohan Singh, and a coalition of Kashmiri separatist leaders, known as the All Parties Hurriyat Conference.

An Online Game’s Economy Yields ATM Cash

By Seth Schiesel

THE NEW YORK TIMES

When you put your card into an automated teller machine, view your balance on the screen and then receive money from the dispenser, you probably understand that a merely electronic notion your bank account — is being translated into a physical object with value: greenbacks.

But what if you are at the corner ATM and your net worth is locked up in an imaginary asteroid mining venture?

Until now you would be plumb out of luck. But today the makers of Entropia Universe, a popular online science-fiction game, plan to introduce a real-world ATM card that will allow players instantly to withdraw hard cash automatically converted from their virtual game treasury. So a player with, say, 2,000 spare PEDs (Project Entropia Dollars) left over after purchasing a new laser rifle in the game could withdraw \$200 and take a date to a real-life ballgame.

OPINION



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Corrections

A front-page article on Friday, "Controversy Over Image Leads To Removal of OpenCourseWare Class Site," was incomplete in its portrayal of the views of the Chinese students, many of whom wanted the sensitive material on the site introduced with better context, rather than removed altogether. Additionally, it incorrectly gave the first name of a professor who co-created the class — he is Shigeru Miyagawa. The history professor quoted in the article is Peter C. Perdue, not Peter Purdue.

A front-page item listed in "In Short" in Friday's issue incorrectly listed one of the offices relocating to the Student Center basement in May. It is the Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Group (FSILG) Cooperative office, not the FSILG office, that will make the move.

TEAL: Building Resistance

Aditya Kohli

The design of one of the most costly experiments in MIT's recent history does not include a control. Instead, it forces subjects to attend, while compensating them with nothing but inefficiency. In case you haven't read the title, the experiment is TEAL (Technology Enhanced Active Learning) physics, and it was introduced in the spring of 2001 as a new way of teaching in response to low attendance in freshman physics classes; attendance is part of the TEAL Grade.

Much literature has been published on the success of TEAL in teaching MIT introductory physics. In fact, based on results from a series of quizzes administered before and after the class material, students enrolled in 8.01T outperformed those enrolled in 8.01. This data should buttress the viability and hype the novelty of the TEAL program, but, unfortunately, it is meaningless, as there is no control to the experiment. TEAL is mandatory; lecture was not. Performance will inevitably be higher if students attend all classes instead of half of them — if 8.01 students had attended all lectures, chances are test results would be on par with or higher than those of the TEAL system. Before completely converting to the TEAL system, MIT should have tested mandatory recitation attendance in 8.01.

TEAL prides itself on being more personalized than lecture-based teaching, but it fails miserably. How can a course that forces students to stare at a PowerPoint presentation for four hours a week be personal? Though there are some very talented lecturers in TEAL, they are held back by a restraint of bureaucracy: they must adhere to the standard presentation. Moreover, the course arrogantly assumes that students will understand everything on first pass. There are no recitations and thus no opportunities for students to clear up misconceptions from class and learn problem-solving techniques. Students are expected to clear up misconceptions by attending office hours, however, at office hours two weeks ago, 70 students came with questions while two TA's were present to help. The focus of the course seems to be its logistics, not

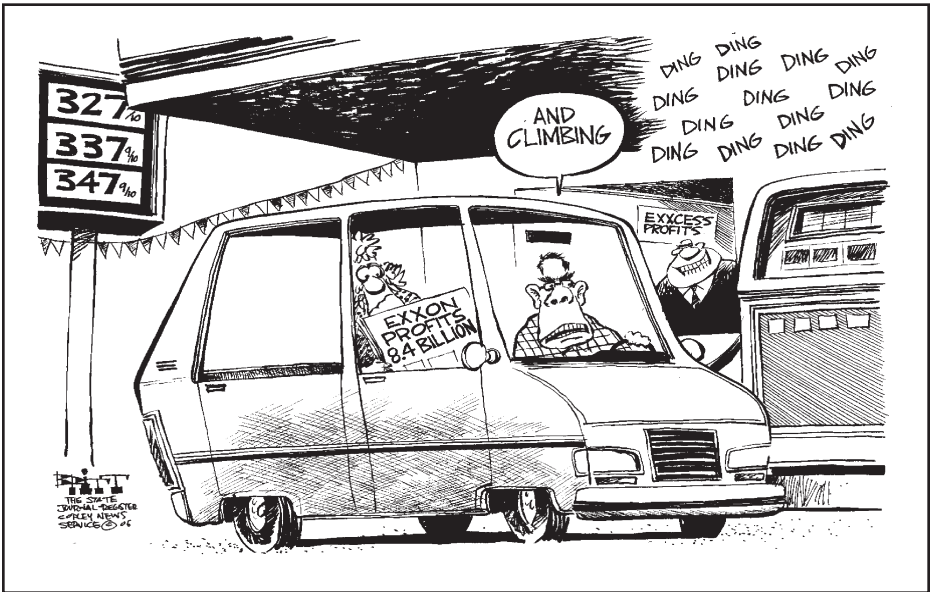
its students.

Yet another pillar of the TEAL complex is its emphasis on group learning. Twice a week, students, in groups of three, conduct experiments and solve group problems. Unfortunately, all three students rarely participate in these sessions — the brightest student or students will solve the problem and conduct the experiment. The others watch in awe. Since much of an 8.02T grade is dependent on these experiments, students are more interested in getting the answer right than understanding the concepts behind it.

Recently, there has been much turmoil regarding widespread cheating on pre-labs — students have been copying last year's solutions from the Internet. While this column is not meant to condone such behavior, it is not difficult to sympathize with students. When one has a two-hour mastering physics assignment due Sunday, and then a four hour problem set, there is little incentive to complete a pre-lab that is longer than and worth less than the problem set, especially when the answers to the prelab are readily available. The administration of the class needs to recognize that if cheating is so deeply embedded in the culture of the class, there is an issue with the class dynamic. (Altered prelab questions or shorter pre-labs would solve the copying problem.)

TEAL is first and foremost inefficient. There are eight sections. Each section has a professor, a graduate TA, and several undergraduate TA's — all of whom are paid. However, the desired personalized atmosphere is not obtained. While professors lecture, TA's are inactive. They circulate only during group problem solving periods and therefore not with the intent of clarifying concepts. They are facilitators, not teachers. If the millions spent on renovating TEAL classrooms and paying these instructors were instead put towards holding smaller lectures and recitations, a truly close environment coupled with effective teaching would result, as the instructor to student ratio would be very low.

If TEAL truly is working, why do a large number of 8.02T students religiously watch Professor Walter HG Lewin's lecture videos during TEAL class?



Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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Letters To The Editor

The Web as a Teaching Platform

I believe that a key question that has not been addressed, but is central to the controversy, is: how to use the Web as a teaching platform appropriately? A Web site does not foster the same type of discussion and interaction as a classroom. In fact, most of us tend to read a Web site article quickly, cursorily, and often partially. Thus sensitive topics presented on the Web can potentially cause more controversy. I have read the original spotlight article on the MIT Web site. Professor Dower did comment on the atrocious nature of the images, and the offensive materials were only direct translations from the wood prints. Unfortunately the professor's own comments did not come until the last paragraph of a long article, and the offensive materials were often not quoted or explained. While I have no doubt of the professor's purely academic intent, I believe that how to present the material appropriately and sensitively on the Web is something the professor and the MIT community should examine. This is crucial to the success of OpenCourseWare as a viable teaching platform.

Andy Wang '05

The Tech's Coverage Of OCW Debate Was Incomplete

I am disappointed by the way Friday's news article "Controversy Over Image Leads To Removal of OCW Class Site" on "Visualizing Cultures" was composed. There are no quotes of opinions from the Chinese students at the forum, particularly, the conversation I had with the author.

I have to admit that there are people who reacted irrationally to this incident, but one has to understand that on one side of the debate, there are two MIT professors who can be easily coordinated and organized, while on the other side, there is a large and international disturbed community. While the majority of this community is rational, it is not surprising for a few members to overreact. The *Tech* article highlighted extreme behavior while ignoring the behavior of the majority.

I spent a fair amount of time explaining that this event is not about racism. I clearly stated that it is not Professors Miyagawa's Japanese origin that led to the flooding of protest e-mails — rather, it was the misleading materials on OCW. The author also failed to point out that Professor Miyagawa is the only contact person listed on the Web site.

The second point I elaborated in our conversation is exactly "censorship" vs. "sensitivity." We strongly support free speech and academic freedom, but feel that proper context is required. Clearly, there are some sentences on the Web site stating that the art work is propaganda, but

Continued on Page 5

Letters

To The Editor,

Continued

Continued from Page 4

apparently, the majority of the readers fail to get the message. That is why I requested that Professors Miyagawa and Dower explicitly point out that the following artwork is taken from propaganda in domestic Japan and is biased. If such a message is successfully delivered, I am sure nobody will question these statements. When the majority misinterprets intention, proper and explicit narration from the author is required.

Although I regret the way *The Tech* reported this incident, I respect its right to choose what facts to print. However, it is dangerous to selectively publish truth.

Hai Jiang G

The Missing Part Of the Equation

The statements released by MIT and its faculty revolved around their relationship with the Chinese community, and did not address the general audience that reads MIT's homepage and the Institute's social responsibility as reputable educators.

As the world's leading educational entity, MIT shoulders great social responsibility not only to its student body but to learners worldwide, and its homepage is a gateway to the world of science, technology, and more importantly, pursuit of truth regarding society and humanity.

If the materials in discussion can lead to such divergent interpretations among well-educated students and scholars, I cannot imagine what possible confusion and disturbance the Web site may cause its highly impressionable audience — youngsters and adults with little knowledge about this part of history. For this reason, I find it shocking and inappropriate that MIT, though with good intentions, publicized these materials without providing proper additional guidance and historical contexts.

Former students of "Visualizing Culture" explained that the professors' lectures helped them to decipher the images and the history of the war. What happens to audiences who never set foot in the professors' classroom? Shouldn't our Institute take extra precaution to ensure crystal-clear understanding of confusing materials for its broad audience? This issue is not simply a matter of academic freedom, but that of social responsibility.

Heng Xu G

Perdue's Open Letter Shows Condescension

In response to Professor Peter C. Perdue's open letter to Chinese Students of MIT, though I am not an MIT student, I took part in the protest again certain parts of the "Visualizing Cultures" course by Professor Dower, and I think what was written applies to every Chinese student in the United States, so I would like to set a couple things straight:

Perdue wrote, "The American university is based on the fundamental principle of academic freedom. Scholars must be allowed to engage in whatever research activities they find most challenging in their professional fields," and "no one can tell them what to study, or demand that their word be suppressed." I totally agree. But Perdue's letter twists (whether intentionally or not) the arguments behind our protests. No one said Dower cannot do his research or publish his work. The contents of "Visualizing Culture" had been available for several months to the students taking the course, and no one protested. It was only after these materials were publicized to everyone in the world that there were mass protests. We are protesting the careless way these materials were presented and publicized, because they can easily arouse psychological pain and distress to more than one billion people in the world. When OpenCourseWare makes all of its materials accessible to the world, it's no long merely an academic tool, it has become a form of mass media, sponsored by one of the most prestigious educational institutions in the world.

My first reaction after seeing Perdue's open letter is shock and disbelief. I was shocked by the condescending and rude way it addressed Chinese students. But I further feel sorry for him, because after doing research on East Asia for more than "25 years" he still lacks the basic understanding of the psychology and culture of the study subjects and basic respect for them. I must claim what I write in no way represents the opinions of University of Texas at Dallas.

Yiyu Shen Ph.D. Candidate
University of Texas at Dallas

Context of Images Was Sufficient

Clyde Law '02, Tao Yue '04

Recently, there's been an outpouring of uninformed rhetoric attacking the Visualizing Cultures commentary on Japanese artwork from the First Sino-Japanese War. We can only imagine the vitriol flung at Professors John W. Dower and Shigeru Miyagawa, for in the blogosphere and on *terra discussion foruma*, rumors spread faster than wildfire, and research is an unnecessary qualification for discussion. It is particularly distressing, though sadly unsurprising, that the fiercest attacks were directed towards Professor Shigeru Miyagawa primarily because of his Japanese heritage.

But there are always hotheads in cyberspace. We address, rather, the calmer voices, those who have seen the images in their original context but who nevertheless criticized the project on other grounds. Some took issue with the tone of the commentary surrounding the pictures. Others, as the Chinese Student and Scholar Association officers did in their reasonably measured letter (<http://www-tech.mit.edu/V126/N21/letters21.html>), condemned the authors for providing insufficient historical background.

We do not agree with these criticisms. When we looked at the project Web site, we felt that the accompanying text adequately explained the historical context in which these prints were to be viewed. When scrutinizing a controversial work, it is easy to find ambiguity which can be misconstrued to give offense, but it is just as easy to discover the exact opposite. Indeed, the commentary on the Web site already discusses the "harsh racist charge and an undisguised edge of pure sadism," the "unusually frightful scene," the "poisonous seed ... planted in violence in 1894-95," and the "explosive outburst of Japanese con-

descension towards China ... [which] seems all the more stunning." The commentary explains particularly poignantly that "this was the war Japanese *wished* to see" (emphasis added), and that the anti-Chinese racism displayed in the pictures "would burst into full atrocious flower four decades later, when the emperor's soldiers and sailors once again launched war against China." These passages are very critical of the Japanese militarism of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and in our opinion are sufficient to place the works in context.

Context should place a work of art in its historical milieu; it does not need to present the history itself, nor should it present judgment. Showing first-hand evidence of historical wrongs is a good thing. Who will fight harder against genocide — someone who was taught "The Nazis were evil, they tried to wipe out the Jews," in elementary school, or someone who listened to Hitler's rages in college and watched footage of *die Kristallnacht*? Who will fight harder against racism — someone who knows only, "The South had segregation, Blacks were terrorized," from elementary school, or someone who was shocked by the casual depiction of Ku Klux Klan terrors on the movie screen? The professor should guide the student in his explorations, but need not present the student with fully-baked opinions. Dispassionate discussion is not to be confused with nonchalant flippancy. People are not so clueless that they must be taught to deplore hatred and violence — anyone with a

If we find it necessary to preface all controversial topics with a disclaimer, we risk turning it into a mantra, a shallow understanding of cause-and-effect.

shred of decency will do that for himself. If we find it necessary to preface all controversial topics with a disclaimer, we risk turning it into a mantra, a shallow understanding of cause-and-effect.

It is also counterproductive to confine depictions of unpleasant historical facts to the classroom for fear that it may be misinterpreted by the easily-corrupted. This would be antithetical to the mission of OpenCourseWare, whose goal is to promote free and open knowledge to people around the world. We cannot learn from history if only a select few are taught. Indeed, the wood-blocks and their racist caricatures of Chinese carry particular weight at present, with the recent emergence in Japan of anti-Chinese manga comic books, which also caricature the Chinese people and express similarly dangerous nationalistic sentiments. It is vital that the lessons of history, such as presented in the Visualizing Cultures project, be made available for us to learn from today, so that history does not repeat itself.

As Chinese MIT alumni, we would like to express our dismay at the manner in which the situation transpired and convey our support for the work done by Professors Dower and Miyagawa in bringing an important part of our past into light. It is understandable that MIT would wish to follow academic trends and protect itself in these times of (geo)political correctness, but we are nevertheless disappointed that our alma mater has not yet taken the lead in standing up for academic freedom. We look forward to seeing the return of the Visualizing Cultures project on the Web.

Ronojoy Chakrabarti '02 contributed to this article.

Anger Not a Substantive Criticism

Peter C. Perdue

Note: Below is an edited, shorter version of a letter available at <http://web.mit.edu/history/Open%20Letter%20to%20Chinese%20Students%20at%20MIT.pdf>.

Recently, a group of Chinese students at MIT have protested pictures of the Sino-Japanese war which were posted on the MIT web site as part of the research project "Visualizing Cultures" conducted by Professors John Dower and Shigeru Miyagawa. The protest has included critical e-mail messages addressed to Prof. Miyagawa, group discussion with the faculty and members of the MIT administration, and a list of demands passed out at a meeting on April 26. Even though the protests are so far only verbal, they include extremely abusive messages directed at distinguished scholars of the Institute and demands for the suppression of free academic research. I am writing to you collectively in response to these activities. I address my remarks primarily to the graduate students from the People's Republic of China who have initiated these protests. I hasten to add that I am sure that not all the Chinese students at MIT approve of these activities, but I hope you will pay close attention to their implications.

You are some of the best and brightest young people of China, who have come to MIT in order to pursue education mainly in scientific and technological subjects with the leading researchers in the world. Many of you, I am sure, plan to return to China to use the skills you learn here to help China become a truly modern country. I respect your dedication to your studies and your deep concern for the honor of your country.

I have spent twenty-five years at MIT teaching East Asian history to Chinese and American students, trying to engage them in critical discussion of the complex relationships between China, Japan, and the world from the sixteenth to twentieth centuries. I have dedicated my professional life to improving mutual understanding of what are often very painful subjects on which people hold passionate views. But even the most painful events deserve reasoned, careful, and open discussion if we are to prevent future tragedies. Therefore, I am deeply disturbed by these recent protests, because they threaten to destroy possibilities for productive dialogue.

Although some of you may find my views difficult to accept, I must present them honestly and directly. I will add that I write only for myself and do not claim to represent the opinions of Profs. Dower and Miyagawa or the MIT administration.

The images posted on the "Visualizing Cultures" Web site were not put there in order to offend. They are an integral part of an ongoing research and educational project which includes lengthy textual explanations that accompany each picture. John and Shigeru have put many hours of their time over the past two years into making the meaning of these materials as clear as possible. They have very graciously expressed

regret over the misinterpretation of this image, but they did nothing wrong in the first place.

This is not a case of unintentional insensitivity, but of deliberate misrepresentation. In historical interpretation, context is everything. Some students ripped one picture alone out of hundreds of pictures and accompanying textual explanation and broadcast it on the internet. This highly irresponsible act is what caused the uproar in the first place. Those who perpetrated this act have not expressed any remorse for the pain they have caused, nor do they seem to recognize the implications of their acts.

The picture they took has the caption "Illustration of the Decapitation of Violent Chinese Soldiers." John Dower's textual explanation paraphrases the Japanese writing on the image and analyzes it as follows:

"The subject itself, however, and the severed heads on the ground, made this an unusually frightful scene ... Even today, over a century later, this contempt remains shocking. Simply as racial stereotyping alone, it was as disdainful of the Chinese as anything that can be found in anti-Oriental racism in the United States and Europe at the time — as if the process of Westernization had entailed, for Japanese, adopting the white man's imagery while excluding themselves from it. This poisonous seed, already planted in violence in 1894-95, would burst into full atrocious flower four decades later, when the emperor's soldiers and sailors once again launched war against China."

John Dower explains very clearly that this is a racist, shocking image, that it mirrors Western racism against all Asians, and that it sowed the "poisonous seed" which led to the atrocious Japanese war in China. Anyone who read these words could not possibly mistake the image for an endorsement of Japanese imperialism.

Therefore I conclude that those who broadcast the image without its context had malicious motives. They intended to whip up anti-Japanese hatred in order to promote a political agenda. Since John Dower has been the most sensitive of all scholars of Asia to the pain of racism, the fact that they took his work as the tool of their project is especially despicable. There is no excuse for it.

Some of the students presented demands presented at the meeting on April 26 which are simply unacceptable by the ordinary standards of American academic life. They include: removing the website on Visualizing Cultures, apologizing to the Chinese community, canceling academic workshops scheduled as part of this research project, and revising the text and images to accord with the preferences of the students. E-mail messages from some MIT alumni have even called for Professors Dower and Miyagawa to be fired. In order to calm the situation, the MIT administration and Professors Dower and Shigeru have conceded some of these demands, while insisting on their own integrity. I respect their decision, but let me explain why, even though I understand your anger, I find these demands unacceptable.

MIT hires to its faculty only scholars of the

highest caliber. When I was the head of the History Faculty, we hired John Dower after a national search indicated that he was the most outstanding scholar of Japanese history in the country. He has won many prizes to confirm that judgment. No one I know is more deeply committed to the empathetic understanding of the peoples of Asia than John Dower. Professor Miyagawa deserves equal respect.

You, despite your passion, are not specialists in East Asian history. Like any field in the sciences or engineering, historical study requires intensive concentration, acquisition of essential research skills, careful study of documents, and thoughtful, clear, writing. Those of you who think that you know the history of East Asian better than these distinguished scholars lack the authority to make this claim. No one so far has presented any evidence that the materials presented on the Visualizing Cultures are mistaken or biased. It is disrespectful of the dedication of serious scholars to make such emotional charges based on no evidence.

Contrary to the accusations of the protesters, the materials on "Visualizing Cultures" do not glorify Japanese imperialism. The visual images and the textual explanation describe and analyze the power of Japanese propaganda about the war. But to describe is not to condone. The text by John Dower makes it very clear that these images are shocking, racist, and sadistic. They did, however, have a powerful impact on the Japanese public at the time. We cannot ignore their power, but we must explain it. Suppression will not help us to understand them.

The American university is based on the fundamental principle of academic freedom. Scholars must be allowed to engage in whatever research activities they find most challenging in their professional fields. Their work is subject to the judgment of their peers in their discipline, and they must respond to careful, reasoned criticism from professional colleagues. Scholars also engage in open dialogue with students and the general public in order to promote public awareness of their research. But ultimately, no one can tell them what to study, or demand that their work be suppressed ...

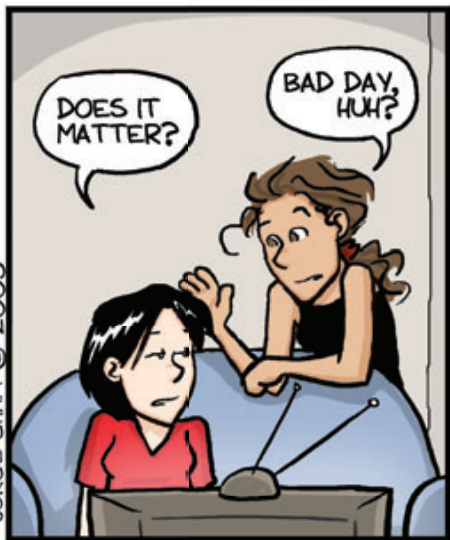
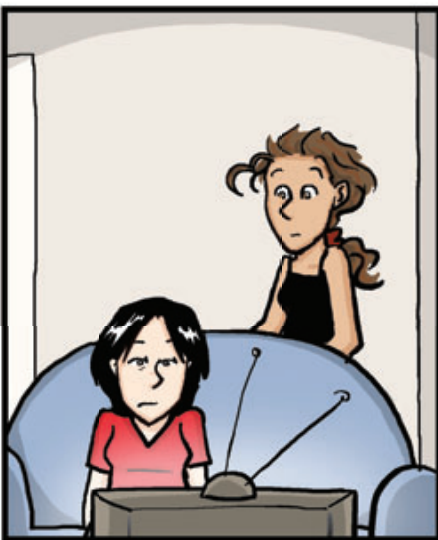
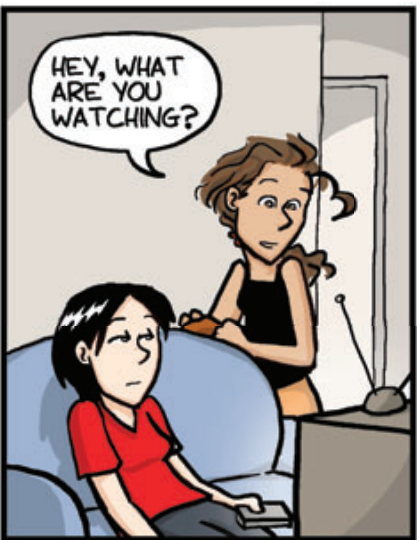
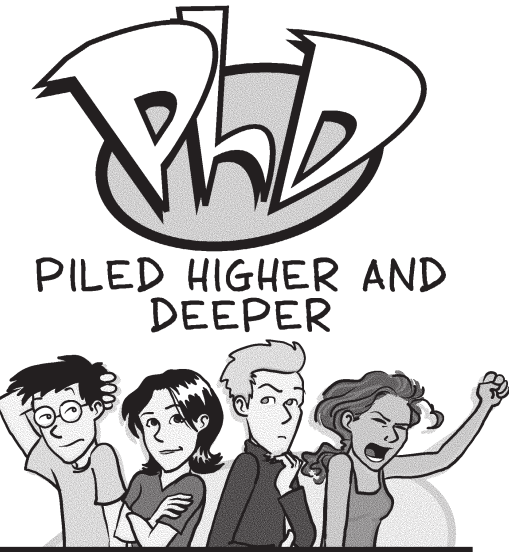
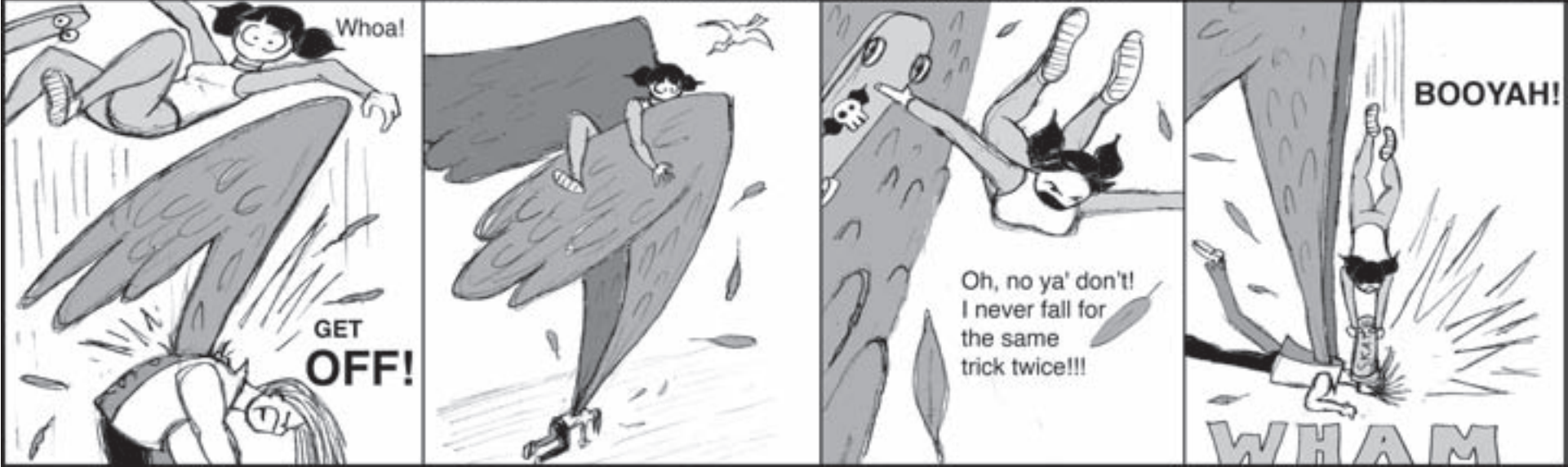
You have a great responsibility as leading participants in China's future. China faces huge challenges in its effort to become a wealthy, strong, democratic, and open nation. You should study not only technical subjects but also the crucial questions of social and historical change that will determine China's future. There are many outstanding faculty at MIT and other universities who will gladly support your goals. Please open your minds to critical awareness of these most difficult questions in a spirit of reasoned, open intellectual discourse, not one of narrow, self-centered indignation.

I wish you well,
Sincerely,
Peter C. Perdue
Perdue is the T.T. and Wei Fong Chao Professor of Asian Civilizations and Professor of History at MIT.

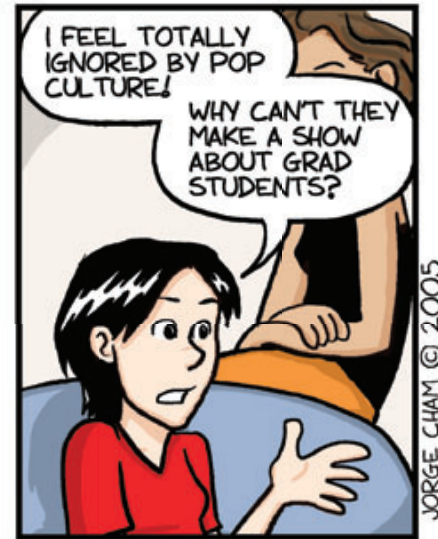
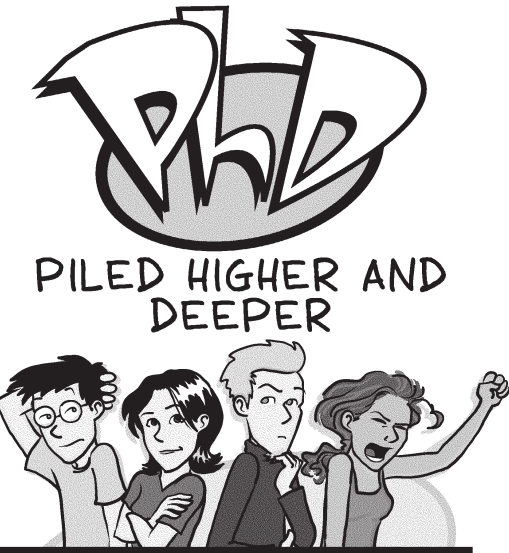
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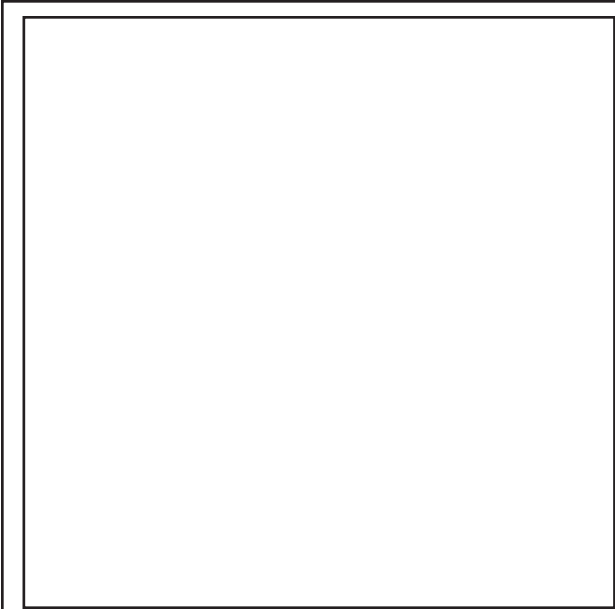
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Bonus Crossword
Solution, page 13

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; see also solution, page 12.

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Friday, May 5th, 2006
Cambridge, MA



SHREYES SESHASAI—THE TECH



STEPHANIE LEE—THE TECH



MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH



SHREYES SESHASAI—THE TECH

Monday, May 1 was known as “A Day Without Immigrants” when millions of immigrants and supporters across the nation attended rallies for their rights instead of going to work. The United States Congress has proposed legislation that would place tougher restrictions on immigration — many are worried about the potential impact on the nation’s thousands of undocumented workers. 1000 to 2000 demonstrators in the Boston area marched to the Boston Common chanting “Immigration built this nation” and “Education, not deportation.” *The Boston Globe* reported that many workers were given permission to miss work in order to participate. Activities, which began at the Common at 4 p.m., included stories from immigrants. Similar rallies were held in cities across the country such as New York, San Antonio, and Los Angeles. See Page 2.

clockwise from below

A vocal demonstrator leads the crowd in cries for justice.

A Colombian immigrant cheers on the public speakers.

Many protestors are fighting for rights because some immigrants cannot obtain an education in their native country.

Speakers take the podium to share personal stories.

Many parents brought their children to emphasize that immigration affects all ages.



SHREYES SESHASAI—THE TECH

...nout Immigrants' in Boston



SHREYES SESHASAI—THE TECH



MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH

clockwise from below

Demonstrators express their disapproval of President Bush's temporary worker program that would allow workers from other countries to work in the US provided they return to their home country after their temporary visa expires.

Many immigrants bring their children to America in hope of providing them with a brighter future.

Justin W. Lee '08 (far right) and marchers hold up a banner reading "As immigrants, we work hard, pay taxes, and we make a positive impact on the economic sector of American society."



MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH

The MIT Energy Forum: Taking on the Challenge

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Wednesday
May 3, 2006
Kresge Auditorium, W16

<p>Opening Remarks 9:00 am – 9:20 am President Susan Hockfield</p> <p>Overview of the Energy Research Council Report 9:20 am – 9:50 am Professor Ernest J. Moniz</p> <p>Panel Session I Science and Technology for a Clean Energy Future 10:00 am – 11:15 am</p>	<p>Morning Summary 11:15 am – 11:30 am Provost L. Rafael Reif</p> <p>Lunch and MIT Energy Club Poster Presentation 11:30 am – 1:00 pm</p> <p>Panel Session II Improving Today's Energy Systems 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm</p>	<p>Panel Session III Energy for a Rapidly Evolving World 2:45 pm – 4:00 pm</p> <p>Question and Answer Session 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm</p> <p>Receptions Plasma Science and Fusion Center, NW17 Sloan Automotive and Electrochemical Energy Laboratories, Building 31 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm</p>
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web.mit.edu/erc/forum

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Energy Research Council

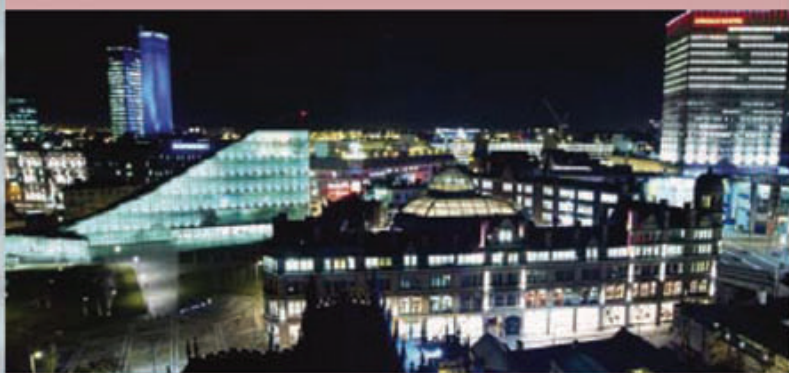
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Proposal to Increase T Fares in January

By Mac Daniel
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Subway, bus, and commuter rail fares would rise sharply under an overhaul proposed yesterday by the MBTA.

Starting in January, subway and trolley fares would increase from \$1.25 to \$1.70, bus fares would go from 90 cents to \$1.25, and most commuter rail passes would cost 22 percent more.

Riders who don't use new automated fare CharlieCards would pay even higher per-ride fares under the plan, as much as an 80 percent increase to \$2.25 for a subway trip. The new fare system would also end the free ride for outbound passengers at Green Line surface stations, officials said yesterday.

The increases would take effect in January, after a series of public workshops and hearings that start May 15 and after the MBTA board votes in November or December. MBTA General Manager Daniel A. Grabauskas said the proposed increases could be modified if there is enough public outcry.

"We tried to give everybody a smorgasbord of options and they can help us choose," Grabauskas said yesterday. "Nobody likes to increase fares. Nobody."

With the last fare hike, in January 2004, bus fares rose from 75 to 90 cents and subway fares went from \$1 to \$1.25.

The proposed fare increases would bring the T in line with several of the nation's other largest transit agencies. The fare hikes are pro-

jected to bring in \$70 million more a year, enough for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to balance its budget as it contends with \$8.1 billion in debt, deteriorating infrastructure, and declining state sales tax revenues that help fund the agency.

Some daily riders, however, could end up paying less than they do now because there will be free transfers systemwide and the cost of a monthly rail-bus pass would drop by about \$17. The T also plans to do away with Red Line exit fares at stations in Quincy and Braintree.

The changes also would not go into effect until automated fare collection and CharlieCards are available across the transit system. That is scheduled to happen by year's end.

The T, the nation's fourth largest public transit system, averages 1.1 million passenger boardings each workday on a network of subway and commuter rail trains, trolleys, buses, and ferries that extends across the Boston region.

As part of the proposed changes, parking rates are also slated to increase slightly to \$5 at Quincy Center, Quincy Adams, and Braintree on the Red Line; to \$3.50 at Chestnut Hill, Eliot, and Waban on the Green Line; and to \$3.75 at Riverside on the Green Line. The present zoned rates for the MBTA's RIDE program for disabled passengers will also be discontinued for a flat \$2 fare each way.

Commuter rail fares would go up as well. For example, a one-way fare from Andover to North Station

would rise from \$5 to \$6.25 while a monthly pass would rise from \$170 to \$210.

T officials say the changes are designed to generate more money while getting rid of unfair quirks that have accumulated over the years.

Red Line exit fares, for instance, resulted from having customers help pay for adding service to the South Shore. Some of the fare exceptions are so old and entrenched, such as the free outbound rides on the Green Line surface stations, that current T officials can't fully explain their history.

T officials also said charging more for single-purchase fares will give more incentive for passengers to use the CharlieCards which look like credit cards and can be reloaded with cash to help speed the boarding of bus passengers and discourage people from trying to skip paying fares.

To get through fare gates, riders will just tap their CharlieCard against a digital reader. Charlie-Tickets have to be inserted, which takes longer, as does giving cash to bus drivers.

Those paying cash or using CharlieTickets, currently in use on portions of the Red and Blue lines and on all of the Silver Line, would pay more under the new fare schedule. Those paying cash or using CharlieTickets will also pay full price to transfer from bus to subway, while CharlieCard users will transfer free.

The planned increases were met with resigned support from one critic of the most recent fare increase, who praised the creation of free transfers,

something passenger advocates have been seeking for years. For instance, a passenger could ride the Silver Line bus from Dudley Station to Downtown Crossing, hop on an Orange Line train to Oak Grove, then take another bus to Melrose all for \$1.70, if the travel is completed within a yet-to-be-determined time limit.

"That will help encourage some more people to use the T," said Jeremy Marin, president of the Sierra Club of Massachusetts.

But he said he worries that another fare increase will cut ridership, eventually leading to another fare hike. "We said during the last fare hike that this was creating a downward spiral," he said. "Revenue is down so you charge higher fares, you get fewer riders, and you need to raise fares again."

Grabauskas said that despite the fare increase, the MBTA has not cut services while most other transit agencies have. T officials say that because of flat ridership, a huge increase in fuel costs, and debt that is higher than any other transit agency, the T has had to dip the last two years into its reserves to balance its budget.

In New York City and Philadelphia, a subway trip or local bus ride is \$2; fares on Northern California's Bay Area Rapid Transit vary by destination, with a trip from the Embarcadero in San Francisco to 24th Street Mission costing \$1.40 one way. Metro bus service in Washington costs \$1.25, while subway service costs between \$1.35 and \$3.90, depending on destination.

Forum Kicks Off Week of Activities

Energy, from Page 1

eas of energy science and technology, opportunities to improve existing energy systems, and the relationship between energy and crucial policy issues, respectively.

"Society is beginning to recognize that energy research is important," said William H. Green, professor in chemical engineering and a member of the Council, who will chair the second panel.

A question and answer session with Hockfield, along with three faculty members, and the president of the Energy Club, will follow the third panel.

Energy Club takes role in forum

The Energy Club will host a poster presentation and energy showcase during lunch in Kresge Lobby as part of the Forum. According to Energy Club President David T. Danielson G, 10 to 12 groups will be in attendance, representing student research, student projects, and recent start-up companies from MIT.

The Solar Car team and companies such as Agrivida, an agricultural biotechnology company that began at MIT in 2003, will give presentations. There will also be a fuel cell demonstration from the Electrochemical Energy Laboratory, Danielson said.

Council's work comes to close

The Council, consisting of 16 faculty members from all five MIT schools, was created after Hockfield's inaugural address last May in which she announced that energy research was an MIT priority. The Council was tasked with creating recommendations for the Energy Initiative and will be disbanded following the forum.

"This initiative will foster new research in science and technology aimed at increasing the energy supply and bringing scientists, engineers, and social scientists together to envision the best energy policies for the future," Hockfield said in her inaugural speech last May.

In the fall of 2005, the Council solicited input from faculty and students, asking for white papers detailing research directions that should be taken by the Energy Initiative. A campus-wide survey was conducted by the MIT Energy Club, and MIT received input from industry in a December workshop.

More recently, the Council helped to set up the EnergyClasses site to highlight graduate and undergraduate classes with a significant focus on energy.

The events will be webcast and made available on MIT World (<http://mitworld.mit.edu/>). The Forum (<http://web.mit.edu/erc/forum/>) also kicks off two weeks of energy-related events.

Solution to Sudoku

from page 7

8	9	6	7	2	4	1	3	5
5	7	1	6	9	3	8	4	2
3	2	4	5	1	8	9	7	6
6	3	7	4	5	9	2	1	8
9	1	2	3	8	6	4	5	7
4	5	8	2	7	1	3	6	9
1	4	5	9	6	2	7	8	3
2	6	3	8	4	7	5	9	1
7	8	9	1	3	5	6	2	4

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America Faces Challenges As Physics Studies Move Abroad

By Dennis Overbye
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Physics in America is at a crossroads and in crisis, just as humanity stands on the verge of great discoveries about the nature of matter and the universe, a panel from the National Academy of Sciences concludes in a new report.

The United States should be prepared to spend up to a half-billion dollars in the next five years to ensure that a giant particle accelerator now being designed by a worldwide consortium of scientists can be built on American soil, the panel said. If that does not happen, particle physics, the quest for the fundamental forces and constituents of nature, will wither in this country, it said.

"That is a risky investment," Harold T. Shapiro, an economist at Princeton and the chairman of the 22-member commission, said Wednesday at a news conference in Washington.

But, Mr. Shapiro added: "It's the least risky path we could find. To stay where we are is equivalent to folding our cards."

Failure to build the machine, the International Linear Collider, in the United States, the panel said, would force American particle physicists to do their research in Europe, where a major machine is to come online next year, and other places, perhaps Japan.

The blow to American physics would erode the base of science and technology that has fueled innovation, provided intellectual and cultural inspiration and bolstered national security over the last century.

The collider recommendation, along with others, was in a new report, "Revealing the Hidden Nature of Space and Time, Charting the Course for Elementary Particle Physics." Among its other recommendations, the group said the

United States should energetically pursue international collaborations in high-energy physics, expand programs in related fields of research like cosmology and underground experiments and take steps to make a long-term plan for particle physics research and then carry it out.

The report says: "The committee has concluded that the price the United States would pay by forfeiting a leadership position in particle physics is too high. Leadership in science remains central to the economic and cultural vitality of the United States."

The report comes on the heels of a widely publicized National Academy report last year, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," which is credited with spurring the Bush administration to propose increasing money for physical science in the president's most recent budget.

The International Linear Collider will shoot electrons and their anti-matter opposites, positrons, at each other through a tunnel some 20 miles long.

Working in tandem with the Large Hadron Collider, another giant machine to begin operating at the European Center for Nuclear Research, CERN, outside Geneva, next year, the linear collider will enable

physicists to explore "revolutionary new physics," probe the origins of mass and investigate the nature of the mysterious dark matter that dominates the universe, scientists say.

Dr. Shapiro said, "We concluded that this might be the most exciting moment in particle physics in a generation."

But just as things are becoming exciting in particle physics, support for such work in the United States has stagnated, and many large projects are closing down. Last winter, scientists at the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island kept a major experiment going only after James Simons, an investment manager and mathematician, raised \$13 million for the laboratory.

The most powerful accelerator now operating, the Tevatron at the Fermi National Laboratory outside Chicago, is scheduled to shut down in 2010, leaving Fermilab with an uncertain future.

An even larger accelerator that would have been the world's largest, the Super Conducting Supercollider, under construction in Texas, was canceled by Congress in 1993.

The report was commissioned two years ago by the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation.

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Solution to
Bonus Crossword
from page 7

D	R	U	I	D		P	R	O	U	D		S	T	S			
D	O	N	N	A		L	O	O	S	E		M	E	T			
T	E	E	N	Y		B	O	P	P	E	R		A	R	E		
						C	O	D	E	S		B	A	L	S	A	
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M	A	T	T	E		W	I	R	E	S		I	S	P			
B	I	T	E		S	A	L	E	S		I	N	C	A			
I	L	L		G	O	L	L	Y		M	O	D	E	S			
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B	O	W	I	N	G			P	A	R	A	D	E	S			
A	L	O	N	E		F	E	A	T	S							
K	I	M		S	H	O	R	T	S		S	H	O	R	T	S	
E	V	E		I	M	A	G	E		A	W	A	K	E			
D	E	N		S	O	L	O	S		L	E	T	O	N			

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Nightline

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Members of the MIT Concert Choir joined with the University Choir of Lausanne, Switzerland to perform Johannes Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* Friday, April 28 in Kresge Auditorium. The MIT Concert Choir will travel to Switzerland and preform again at the Cathédrale de Lausanne at the end of May.

RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

Test Affords Chance To Become a Beaver

Swim test, from Page 1

and flexible for students.”

Student responses to the swim test are generally positive. “I think the swim test is absolutely reasonable,” wrote Zsuzsa Megyery ’09 in an e-mail. “I find it to be very useful to know how to swim and I don’t think a graduate from a school as prestigious as MIT should not know something as basic as swimming a length to save your life.”

Some students also pointed out that MIT students especially need to manage swimming skills to “become a beaver.”

To meet the special needs of some students, MIT holds a female-only swim session during IAP in odd years. Alternatively, male-only sessions are held during even years. To accommodate other personal or religious needs, DAPER also utilizes the alumni pool and sets up a private tests for students.

“As a life-saving skill, swimming can help build lifelong wellness and health,” said Moore explaining why swimming is uniquely chosen above other sports to be one of the Institute requirements. Moore pointed to swimming as one of America’s more useful and ubiquitous skills. “Parents automatically put their children into swim classes,” she said.

The prerequisite swim test is also a building block for other small boat classes offered at MIT. DAPER’s survey shows that of 506 student respondents, 65 percent said that they would be interested in the small boats sampler physical education course, making it the most popular selection among all PE classes.

Other universities that require a swim test to graduate include Cornell, Columbia, Swarthmore, Dartmouth, Bryn Mawr, the University of Chicago, and the University of Notre Dame.

Air Force A-10s Join Pass-in-Review

The annual MIT, Harvard, Tufts, and Wellesley ROTC Pass-in-Review parade was held on Friday, April 28

(right) Cadets line up on Barry Astroturf field in preparation for the morning’s events.

(below) A pair of USAF A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft fly over MIT. The A-10, colloquially known as the “Warthog,” has been in service since 1975.



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SPORTS

NEWMAC Scoreboard

Thursday April 27th	
Women's Lacrosse	
Babson	14
MIT	12
Saturday April 29th	
Women's Track	
Wheaton	211.50
Springfield	155.50
MIT	141
Smith	84
U.S. Coast Guard	72
WPI	63
Mount Holyoke	47
Babson	4
Men's Track	
MIT	214.50
U.S. Coast Guard	178
Springfield	166.50
Wheaton	123
WPI	71
Babson	17
Men's Tennis	
MIT	4
Wheaton	1

Men's Tennis, Track and Field Win Conference Championships

Uzoma A. Orji '06 Wins Shot Put, Discus, and Hammer Throw

By Travis Johnson
SPORTS EDITOR

After Sunday's 4-1 victory over Wheaton College in the NEWMAC conference tournament final, MIT remains the only champion in the eight year history of the tournament.

Sports Shorts

Wheaton's Brian Danishevsky beat Mark D. Egan '07 in fifth singles, marking the first time MIT lost a match in the tournament.

The Engineers started the match by taking the doubles point with wins in first and third doubles matches. Evan W. Tindell '06 and Thomas H. Dohman '07 beat Payum Payman and Sean Daly 8-3 in the first spot,

while Jonathan F. Farm '08 and Said E. Francis '06 won 8-5 over Matt Sheers and Nick Potter in the third.

Tindell, Eric A. Beren '08, and Mevlin C. Makhni '07 won the first, third and sixth singles matches for MIT to put away Wheaton, all in straight sets. Four points are needed to win, with one point for each singles match and one for the doubles series.

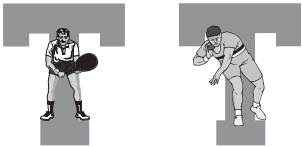
When play stopped when MIT got their fourth point, Wheaton had the lead in both of the matches still in progress. Daly and Brad Dressler

were both one game away from winning their singles matches.

Host MIT won the NEWMAC Outdoor Track and Field crown Saturday, scoring 211.5 points compared to second place U.S. Coast Guard's 178.

Defending Division III National Champion shot putter Uzoma A. Orji '06 had a remarkable afternoon, winning the shot put, discus, and hammer throw to score 30 points, more than the entire Babson team. His 58 feet, 6 inches shot put was a meet record.

MIT had four other meet winners: Spencer C. Dudley '07 in the 10,000 m, Chris M. Bruce '08 in the 3000 m Steeplechase, Omari S. Stephens '08 in the Pole Vault, and Thaddeus J. Wozniak '06 in the Long Jump.



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